

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 2121

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OCON, XA
SUBJECT: AF CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE, OCT 8-13, 1978

REF: STATE 189821

1. ILLUSTRATIVE ISSUES CITED REFTEL SEEM LIKE EXCELLENT RUNDOWN TO ME ASSUMING THEY PREFACED BY GENERAL PRESENTATION OF WHERE WE STAND NOW AND WHERE WE WANT TO GO (I.E., A POINT OF REFERENCE FROM WHICH MEANINGFUL DISCUSSION CAN FLOW). THUS, IF WE ARE TO DISCUSS WAYS OF HELPING OAU IMPROVE ITS EFFECTIVENESS, WE SHOULD KNOW WHAT IT IS USG IS PREPARED OR NOT PREPARED CONTRIBUTE. ONE ITEM PUZZLES ME SOME --QUESTION OF WHETHER "MODERATE" AND "PROGRESSIVE" ARE OUTMODED TERMS, SINCE I AM NOT SURE OF RELEVANCE, GIVEN THAT AFRICANS THEMSELVES USE THE TERMS.

2. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE CERTAIN NON-SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES ADDED TO LIST, HOWEVER, PARTICULARLY A PRESENTATION ON CURRENT PERSONNEL POLICIES THAT AFFECT ALL OF US. IN ADDITION, I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM SOMEONE SPECIFICALLY ON ASSIGNMENTS TO AFRICA, INCLUDING SUCH TOPICS AS OPERATION OF OPEN ASSIGNMENTS POLICY, SERVICE DISCIPLINE, AND STAFF PERSONNEL TO AFRICAN POSTS. FINALLY, I WOULD APPRECIATE DISCUSSION ON FLY AMERICA ACT AND WHAT, IF ANYTHING, CAN BE DONE ABOUT IT. TIENKEN

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